had expressed its concern over the deterioration in financial flows to developing countries and had noted that in many cases there had actually been net outflows of financial resources from the developing countries to the developed countries;

(b) if so, what were the inflow and outflow figures in respect of various developing Commonwealth countries for the past three years, as taken note of by the Summit, and where did India stand in this respect; and

(c) what was India's stand in this regard at the Summit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The communique adopted at the Summit noted the broad trend of net outflow of financial resources from developing countries to developed countries and suggested some remedial action. Figures of net outflow of financial resources in respect of individual Commonwealth countries were neither presented to nor discussed at the Summit

There has been no net outflow from India to developed countries in respect of borrowings on government account.

(c) India fully shares the concern expressed in this regard at the Vancouver Summit and hopes that urgent steps will be taken to redress the situation along the lines indicated in the communique.

Achievements of the SAARC summit

*288. SHRI B SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements of the recently concluded SAARC Summit in Kathmandu; and

(b) the steps taken by the SAARC Member countries in relation to cooperation, trade and Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) At the Third SAARC Summit in Kathmandu, the member countries signed an Agreement Establishing the SAARC Food Security Reserve and a SAARC Regional Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism. They also agreed to commission a study on the protection and preservation of the environment and on the causes and consequences of natural disasters.

In addition, the Heads of State or Government issued the Kathmandu Declaration which reflects their views on the world economic and political situation and regional cooperation and a joint Press Release containing their decisions on specific issues.

The member countries decided that studies should be undertaken in the following areas:

(i) Analysis of trade regimes vis-a vis industrial protection policies of member countries;

(ii) Quantification of the benefits of inter-regional trade expansion including transit problems of land-locked countries and mechanism for financing short duration trade imbalances;

(iii) Studies to explore the possibilities of joint ventures in agriculture, industry and energy; and

(iv) Studies of existing national systems of industrial promotion and regulation includinig assessment of design and consultancy capabilities and post harvest technologies.

Setting up of international biotechnology centre

*289 SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Biotechnology Centre is being set up near Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any progress has been made in this regard, and

(c) whether Government propose to exercise overall control over the type of research to be carried on in this Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir A meeting of the Ministerial Level Plenipotentiary Committee under the auspices of the UNIDO decided to set up the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) in two components, one in New Delhi, India and the other in Trieste, Italy The New Delhi component would be set up on the basis of the Indian offer made at that meeting. Accordingly suitable laboratory facilities would be built and provided by Govt. of India Interim laboratory facilities are also to be provided in the meantime. Activities in this regard are likely to be commenced by UNIDO/ICGEB after the formal agreement is signed between the Government of India and UNIDO on the basic terms and conditions governing the UNIDO Project envisaged by the interim programme for the ICGEB.

(c) Since the ICGEB is an international institution, the question of any single country having overall control over the type of research to be carried on in this Centre does not arise.

Impact of the Lok Adalats on the disposal of Court cases

†290 SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the impact of Lok Adalats on the speedy disposal of pending cases and in the clearing of arrears of court cases; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to give the Lok Adalats a definite shape by holding regular Lok Adalats frequently to clear the pending arrears of court cases?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) No formal assessment of the impact of Lok Adalats on the speedy disposal of pending cases and in the clearing of arrears of court cases has been made by the Central Government. However, from the reports compiled by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes on the basis of reports from the various State Legal Aid and Advice Boards, it is evident that Lok Adalats have gained considerable popularity and that they have been instrumental in the quick disposal of cases.

As per information available with the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes, so far 1388 Lok Adalats have been organised at which over 8,28,870 cases have been settled.

(b) The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 (39 of 1987) places the Lok Adalats on a statutory footing. Upon the entry into force of this Act, Lok Adalats will be organised as required by the Act.

Guidelines for appointments of Judges

*291 SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the item 'Judges shuffling the Pack' in India Today of November 15, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the guidelines for appointing the Chief Justices and the Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts;

(c) whether these guidelines were violated in recent appointments; and